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TITLE:

Scales using microprocessor - determining wt. based upon evaluation of successive

valves to reduce likely pointer deflection required and cost determination time

INVENTOR: FEINLANDF, S, FREEMAN, G C, FEINLAND, S

PATENT-

FEINLANDF, S FREEMAN, G C FEINLAND, S PITNEY BOWES INC

ASSIGNEE:

[PITB]

PRIORITY-DATA: 1986US-0909151 (September 19, 1986)

### PATENT-FAMILY:

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DE 3731508 C2	April 12, 2001	N/A	000	G01G 019/413N/A N/A N/A N/A N/
DE 3731508 A	March 24, 1988	N/A	009	A N/A
GB 2195460 A	April 7, 1988	N/A	000	
FR 2604255 A	March 25, 1988	N/A	000	
US 4787048 A	November 22, 1988	N/A	800	•
GB 2195460 B	October 10, 1990	N/A	000	
CA 1276302 C	November 13, 1990	N/A	000	

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DE 3731508C2	N/A	1987DE-3731508	September 18, 1987
DE 3731508A	N/A	1987DE-3731508	September 18, 1987
GB 2195460A	N/A	1987GB-0021954	September 18, 1987
US 4787048A	N/A	1986US-0909151	September 19, 1986

INT-CL (IPC): G01G017/02, G01G019/41, G01G019/413, G06F015/21, G07B017/00

ABSTRACTED-PUB-NO: DE 3731508A

# BASIC-ABSTRACT:

A trunking system for use in postal applications has a weighing facility in which the load cell of a balance provides an input to an analogue-to-digital converter. This provides digital input to a microcomputer that executes a routine to determine the weight of the item to be posted.

When the postal item is placed on the surface of the balance a cycle of motion occurs, since the unit is

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effectively a lightly damped mass-spring-damper system. In order that execution time is minimised the microcomputer executes an algorithm to determine weight based upon successive values.

ABSTRACTED-PUB-NO: GB 2195460B

# **EQUIVALENT-ABSTRACTS**:

A postal scale for determining the appropriate postage amount for a mailpiece as a function of the weight of said mailpiece, said postage amount function having a constant value over at least one range between two predetermined weight break points, comprising: a) means for supporting said mailpiece, said support means providing an instantaneous response to a load placed thereon by said mailpiece; b) transducer means for generating a sequence of digital output signals representative of the instantaneous response of said support means; c) processing means for, in response to said digital output signals: c1) detecting the presence of said mailpiece on said support means; c2) then making a first estimate of the weight of said mailpiece; c3) then testing said first estimate to determine if it is within one of said ranges and if the difference between said first estimate and the closest of said break points exceeds a predetermined amount; and c4) then, if said first estimate satisfies said test, using said first estimate to determine said postage amount for said mailpiece; or c5) then, if said first estimate fails to satisfy said test, making a second more accurate estimate of the weight of said mailpiece, and using said second estimate to determine said postage amount.

### US 4787048A

The scale includes a transducer which produces a sequence of digital output signals representative of the instantaneous response of a scale and a microprocessor which detects the presence and weight of mail pieces on the scale. The algorithm used in the scale of the subject invention takes advantage of the fact that postal rate charts are, in general, step-like. The processor examines sequences of digital output signals and makes estimate of the weight of the mail pieces and determines the distance from the first estimate to the closest breakpoint. If the distance is sufficiently great the first estimate may be used safely to determine the appropriate postage amount. If the distance is close a second more accurate estimate is then made and used to determine the appropriate postage amount. ADVANTAGE - Increased speed.

(8pp)

CHOSEN-

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DRAWING:

SCALE MICROPROCESSOR DETERMINE WEIGHT BASED EVALUATE

TITLE-TERMS: SUCCESSION VALVE REDUCE POINT DEFLECT REQUIRE COST

DETERMINE TIME

DERWENT-CLASS: S02 T05

EPI-CODES: S02-D02C; T05-C;

SECONDARY-ACC-NO:

Non-CPI Secondary Accession Numbers: N1988-064656